Pakistani move for formation of Commonwealth of Islamic Republics

1653. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to recent press reports about a Pakistani move for formation of a Commonwealth of Islamic Republics comprising Pakistan, Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhistan, Azarbaijan and Turkmenistan with Pakistan as its head, constituting it into an exclusive economic zone; and

(b) if so, the Government's perception about its diplomatic, economic and security ramifications in Central Asia?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) Government has seen media reports regarding a seminar organised in Islamabad in June, 1996 by some nongovernmental organisations reportedly urging the formation of a confederation of Islamic countries.

(b) Government believes that most countries of Central Asia share India's perception that the formation of a regional political or economic grouping based on sectarian religious considerations is not in their interest or in the interest of peace, development and stability of the region.

राज्यों में जलाशय

1654. **श्री चिमनभाई हरिभाई शुक्ल:** क्या जल संसाधन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) राज्य सरकारों द्वारा स्वीकृति हेतु प्रस्तुत की गई जलाशय योजनाओं का ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) ये योजनाएं कब से लंबित हैं और इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) इन योजनाओं को कब तक स्वीकृति प्रदान किये जाने की संभावना है?

जल संसाधन मंत्री (श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र): (क) और (ख) राज्य सरकारों द्वारा प्रस्तुत उन जलाशय परियोजनाओं के ब्यौरे को दर्शानेवाला विवरण अनुपत्र में दिया गया है जो केन्द्र में स्वीकृति के लिए लंबित है। **[देखिए परिशिष्ट 178, अनुपत्र सं० 38]**

(ग) यद्यपि परियोजनाओं के मूल्यांकन के लिए समय सीमा निर्धारित है, फिर भी स्वीकृति में विलम्ब का कारण राज्य सरकारों द्वारा विभिन्न केन्द्रीय मूल्यांकन अभिकरणों की टिप्पणियों की अनुपालना में विलंब करना है।

Indian Students engaged in Smuggling in Russia

1655. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to
state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Indian students studying in Russia are turning couriers for smugglers;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any analysis of the circumstances forcing the Indian students in Russia in smuggling activities; and

(c) if so, the details thereof stating the steps taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) Government are aware that some Indian students studying in Russia have indulged in illegal activities.

(b) While illegal activities cannot be condoned, Government are congnizant of the difficulties being faced by Indian students owing to reduction or elimination of stipends and increase in the cost of living.

(c) Government have taken steps to alleviate these difficulties to the extent possible. In recent years, there has been considerable liberalisaiton in the foreign exchange conversion facilities available for students going for higher studies abroad.

In November 1994, Government entered into an agreement with the

ussian State Committee for Higher ducation providing for placement of idian students in recognised institutions f higher education in Russia, as well as laranteed terms and conditions for the ntire duration of their study, against ayment in hard currency.

When approached by students who face roblems as a result of enhancement of es, the Embassy, after examining the cts, intervenes as necessary to ensure juitable treatment for Indian students.

Whenever specific difficulties are ought to the notice of our Embassy, forts are made to resolve them in cordance with the rules and gulations.

उत्तर प्रदेश में विधान सभा चुनाव

1656. **श्री राजनाथ सिंह:**
श्रीमती मालती शर्मा:

क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 2 जुलाई, 1996 के वभारत टाइम्स'' से ''संयुक्त मोर्चे की सरकार उत्तर श विधान सभा चुनावों से पहले अयोध्या मसले को ाझाना चाहती है'' शीर्षक से प्रकाशित समाचार की ं दिलाया गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या अयोध्या मसले को हल ने के लिए सरकार ने कोई विशेष फार्मूला तैयार किया

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(घ) क्या सरकार अयोध्या मसले की दलील देकर ं प्रदेश के विधान सभा चुनावों को स्थगित करने का ार रखती है?

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मोहम्मद न्नूल डार): (क) से (ग) जी हां, श्रीमन्। कार ने 2 जुलाई, 1996 को नवभारत टाइम्स में शित खबर को देखा है। प्रेस की यह खबर कि यह ाद उत्तर प्रदेश विधान सभा के चुनावों से पहले ाझा लिया जाएगा, बिल्कुल गलत है।

(घ) उत्तर प्रदेश विधान सभा के चुनाव वाना/स्थगित करना, अयोध्या मुद्दे से जुड़ा हुआ ं है।

Modernisation of Textile Mills in Madhya Pradesh with Foreign Assistance

1657. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some textile mills in Madhya Pradesh are being modernised with foreign assistance;

(b) if so, the names of such textile mills;

(c) the countries and the financial institutions which have provided funds for the modernisation; and

(d) the details of the funds provided by them during the last three years; yearwise?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) No, Sir, No such report is available with the Government.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Replenishing the ageing armoury of the Indian Armed Forces

1658. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps are being taken by Government to replace and replenish the ageing armoury of the Indian Armed Forces and to acquire or produce the latest gadgetry for them to keep abreast of the fast developments taking place in the world in general and in our neighbouring countries in particular; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) and (b) Government are conscious of the need to modernise, update and upgrade the equipment and weapon systems of the Armed Forces. Consequently, a high priority is attached to the programme of modernisation of the equipment and weaponry of the Services. The programmes of modernisation and upgradation are